

Designated Health Professional Shortage Areas Statistics

Third Quarter of Fiscal Year 2019
Designated HPSA Quarterly Summary

As of June 30, 2019

Bureau of Health Workforce
Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)
U.S. Department of Health & Human Services

Designated Health Professional Shortage Areas Statistics

Table 1. Health Professional Shortage Areas: Number, Population, and Additional Practitioners Needed for Geographic Areas, Population Groups, and Facilities as of June 30, 2019

	Number of Designations ⁽¹⁾	Population of Designated HPSAs ⁽²⁾	Percent of Need Met ⁽³⁾	Practitioners Needed to Remove Designations
Primary Medical HPSA Totals	6,418	75,384,039	44.88 %⁽⁴⁾	13,758⁽⁷⁾
Geographic Area	1,316	31,473,315	58.32 %	4,071
Population Group	1,640	43,027,528	36.37 %	9,115
Facility	3,462	883,196	34.37 %	572
Dental HPSA Totals	5,304	53,913,560	30.17 %⁽⁵⁾	9,527⁽⁸⁾
Geographic Area	589	11,229,672	49.92 %	1,283
Population Group	1,699	41,747,387	25.21 %	7,811
Facility	3,016	936,501	31.52 %	433
Mental Health HPSA Totals	4,592	111,671,772	27.27 %⁽⁶⁾	6,100⁽⁹⁾
Geographic Area	1,015	77,007,162	29.87 %	3,501
Population Group	438	33,462,927	18.02 %	1,988
Facility	3,139	1,201,683	37.00 %	611

Designated Health Professional Shortage Areas Statistics

Table 2. Health Professional Shortage Areas: Rural/Non-Rural Classification as of June 30, 2019

	Number of Designations ⁽¹⁾	Percentage of All Designations ⁽¹⁰⁾	Population of Designated HPSAs	Practitioners Needed to Remove Designations
Primary Medical HPSA Totals	6,418		75,384,039	13,758
Rural	3,817	59.47 %	22,318,553	3,681
Geographic Area	868	13.52 %	12,800,774	1,664
Population Group	886	13.80 %	9,055,301	1,721
Facility	2,063	32.14 %	462,478	296
Non-Rural	2,149	33.48 %	37,107,961	7,422
Geographic Area	237	3.69 %	11,693,142	1,593
Population Group	513	7.99 %	24,994,101	5,553
Facility	1,399	21.80 %	420,718	276
Partially Rural⁽¹¹⁾	448	6.98 %	15,915,412	2,644
Geographic Area	207	3.23 %	6,937,286	803
Population Group	241	3.76 %	8,978,126	1,841
Unknown⁽¹²⁾	4	0.06 %	42,113	11
Geographic Area	4	0.06 %	42,113	11
Dental HPSA Totals	5,304		53,913,560	9,527
Rural	3,149	59.37 %	18,100,895	3,136
Geographic Area	456	8.60 %	6,366,928	766
Population Group	990	18.67 %	11,296,921	2,176
Facility	1,703	32.11 %	437,046	194
Non-Rural	1,821	34.33 %	24,255,887	4,357
Geographic Area	65	1.23 %	2,798,708	281
Population Group	443	8.35 %	20,957,724	3,837
Facility	1,313	24.75 %	499,455	239
Partially Rural⁽¹¹⁾	330	6.22 %	11,491,658	2,022
Geographic Area	66	1.24 %	2,025,273	229
Population Group	264	4.98 %	9,466,385	1,793
Unknown⁽¹²⁾	4	0.08 %	65,120	12
Geographic Area	2	0.04 %	38,763	7
Population Group	2	0.04 %	26,357	5
Mental Health HPSA Totals	4,592		111,671,772	6,100

Designated Health Professional Shortage Areas Statistics

	Number of Designations ⁽¹⁾	Percentage of All Designations ⁽¹⁰⁾	Population of Designated HPSAs	Practitioners Needed to Remove Designations
Rural	2,472	53.83 %	24,872,305	1,633
Geographic Area	610	13.28 %	21,980,778	1,182
Population Group	105	2.29 %	2,287,856	175
Facility	1,757	38.26 %	603,671	276
Non-Rural	1,694	36.89 %	36,277,677	2,053
Geographic Area	126	2.74 %	17,105,309	676
Population Group	186	4.05 %	18,574,356	1,042
Facility	1,382	30.10 %	598,012	335
Partially Rural⁽¹¹⁾	423	9.21 %	50,281,546	2,399
Geographic Area	277	6.03 %	37,875,808	1,641
Population Group	146	3.18 %	12,405,738	758
Unknown⁽¹²⁾	3	0.07 %	240,244	15
Geographic Area	2	0.04 %	45,267	2
Population Group	1	0.02 %	194,977	13

Designated Health Professional Shortage Areas Statistics

Table 3. Primary Care Health Professional Shortage Areas, by State, as of June 30, 2019

Primary Care	Total Designations ⁽¹⁾	Geographic Area	Population Group	Facility	Population of Designated HPSAs	Percent of Need Met ⁽³⁾	Practitioners Needed to Remove Designations ⁽⁶⁾
HPSA Total	6,418	1,316	1,640	3,462	75,384,039	0.44 %	13,758
Region I	231	22	51	158	1,309,267	0.31 %	306
Connecticut	40	0	22	18	441,228	0.00 %	148
Maine	65	13	8	44	86,994	0.41 %	16
Massachusetts	62	4	9	49	502,137	0.37 %	108
New Hampshire	27	2	6	19	96,317	0.59 %	14
Rhode Island	13	1	3	9	159,827	0.69 %	17
Vermont	24	2	3	19	22,764	0.61 %	3
Region II	230	12	68	150	5,956,540	0.22 %	1,551
New Jersey	35	0	0	35	27,685	0.23 %	21
New York	151	9	51	91	4,132,982	0.30 %	961
Puerto Rico	39	0	17	22	1,690,276	0.01 %	554
U.S. Virgin Islands	5	3	0	2	105,597	0.58 %	15
Region III	423	81	109	233	3,982,678	0.51 %	637
Delaware	13	2	4	7	233,863	0.32 %	55
District of Columbia	14	3	3	8	240,468	0.27 %	58
Maryland	44	7	20	17	801,473	0.55 %	112
Pennsylvania	145	15	25	105	511,192	0.44 %	114
Virginia	102	48	16	38	1,557,100	0.62 %	182
West Virginia	105	6	41	58	638,582	0.46 %	116
Region IV	1,245	278	458	509	20,873,117	0.44 %	3,858
Alabama	100	43	18	39	2,295,274	0.58 %	316
Florida	239	17	116	106	5,964,228	0.21 %	1,607
Georgia	222	55	97	70	3,214,540	0.42 %	622
Kentucky	170	49	45	76	1,275,898	0.55 %	181
Mississippi	116	53	26	37	1,744,855	0.41 %	340
North Carolina	171	22	64	85	1,953,770	0.46 %	329
South Carolina	87	14	29	44	1,926,547	0.68 %	204
Tennessee	140	25	63	52	2,498,005	0.69 %	259

Designated Health Professional Shortage Areas Statistics

Primary Care	Total Designations ⁽¹⁾	Geographic Area	Population Group	Facility	Population of Designated HPSAs	Percent of Need Met ⁽³⁾	Practitioners Needed to Remove Designations ⁽⁶⁾
Region V	1,028	188	227	613	10,996,454	0.56 %	1,562
Illinois	208	40	73	95	3,164,689	0.54 %	466
Indiana	115	32	29	54	2,017,195	0.78 %	141
Michigan	311	22	56	233	2,759,613	0.42 %	524
Minnesota	117	30	22	65	509,711	0.48 %	85
Ohio	150	40	19	91	1,410,761	0.56 %	199
Wisconsin	127	24	28	75	1,134,485	0.59 %	147
Region VI	889	243	211	435	10,620,090	0.55 %	1,541
Arkansas	83	14	41	28	519,795	0.53 %	83
Louisiana	136	43	25	68	2,260,882	0.66 %	242
New Mexico	93	26	9	58	1,055,197	0.23 %	260
Oklahoma	171	13	62	96	1,253,233	0.59 %	175
Texas	406	147	74	185	5,530,983	0.56 %	781
Region VII	549	64	184	301	3,079,846	0.28 %	717
Iowa	114	29	24	61	606,991	0.57 %	82
Kansas	145	18	62	65	757,033	0.49 %	124
Missouri	187	8	98	81	1,696,769	0.10 %	508
Nebraska	103	9	0	94	19,053	0.38 %	3
Region VIII	483	160	103	220	2,864,309	0.42 %	545
Colorado	115	24	37	54	1,099,671	0.34 %	256
Montana	107	23	31	53	404,622	0.34 %	83
North Dakota	74	44	3	27	188,627	0.33 %	37
South Dakota	90	35	14	41	238,804	0.41 %	45
Utah	56	15	13	28	744,682	0.59 %	100
Wyoming	41	19	5	17	187,903	0.53 %	24
Region IX	894	200	136	558	12,006,971	0.42 %	2,278
Arizona	188	52	35	101	2,839,275	0.40 %	558
California	584	119	85	380	7,579,564	0.42 %	1,443
Hawaii	26	5	2	19	187,341	0.73 %	14

Designated Health Professional Shortage Areas Statistics

Primary Care	Total Designations ⁽¹⁾	Geographic Area	Population Group	Facility	Population of Designated HPSAs	Percent of Need Met ⁽³⁾	Practitioners Needed to Remove Designations ⁽⁶⁾
Nevada	79	16	13	50	948,520	0.47 %	170
American Samoa	2	1	0	1	55,009	0.05 %	17
Federated States of Micronesia	8	3	1	4	101,519	0.00 %	34
Guam	2	1	0	1	178,457	0.72 %	16
Marshall Islands	2	1	0	1	53,158	0.00 %	18
Northern Mariana Islands	1	1	0	0	53,366	0.72 %	4
Republic of Palau	2	1	0	1	10,762	0.00 %	4
Region X	446	68	93	285	3,694,767	0.35 %	763
Alaska	84	15	0	69	105,032	0.26 %	24
Idaho	93	14	29	50	485,818	0.49 %	79
Oregon	116	12	32	72	895,684	0.51 %	144
Washington	153	27	32	94	2,208,233	0.25 %	516

Designated Health Professional Shortage Areas Statistics

Table 4. Dental Health Professional Shortage Areas, by State, as of June 30, 2019

Dental Health	Total Designations ⁽¹⁾	Geographic Area	Population Group	Facility	Population of Designated HPSAs	Percent of Need Met ⁽⁴⁾	Practitioners Needed to Remove Designations ⁽⁷⁾
HPSA Total	5,304	589	1,699	3,016	53,913,560	0.30 %	9,527
Region I	216	18	52	146	1,235,561	0.38 %	191
Connecticut	32	0	19	13	394,804	0.00 %	100
Maine	71	13	21	37	295,798	0.40 %	40
Massachusetts	57	3	4	50	325,244	0.76 %	21
New Hampshire	21	0	3	18	29,796	0.40 %	5
Rhode Island	13	0	4	9	160,491	0.43 %	23
Vermont	22	2	1	19	29,428	0.53 %	2
Region II	163	4	23	136	1,012,560	0.22 %	213
New Jersey	35	0	0	35	39,776	0.42 %	17
New York	100	1	23	76	858,202	0.19 %	175
Puerto Rico	24	1	0	23	12,965	0.16 %	4
U.S. Virgin Islands	4	2	0	2	101,617	0.33 %	17
Region III	403	42	154	207	5,101,028	0.37 %	802
Delaware	10	0	3	7	178,124	0.06 %	50
District of Columbia	11	0	2	9	82,914	0.02 %	21
Maryland	41	9	15	17	835,289	0.21 %	148
Pennsylvania	152	2	56	94	1,987,740	0.47 %	277
Virginia	89	22	38	29	1,292,374	0.43 %	172
West Virginia	100	9	40	51	724,587	0.28 %	134
Region IV	1,061	139	473	449	18,152,178	0.24 %	3,480
Alabama	73	0	43	30	1,828,616	0.20 %	376
Florida	204	3	106	95	5,448,761	0.12 %	1,224
Georgia	178	40	83	55	2,011,827	0.22 %	393
Kentucky	118	14	34	70	636,557	0.49 %	77
Mississippi	110	56	23	31	1,801,422	0.45 %	248
North Carolina	151	3	73	75	2,407,308	0.19 %	489
South Carolina	81	20	18	43	1,649,745	0.41 %	247
Tennessee	146	3	93	50	2,367,942	0.29 %	426

Designated Health Professional Shortage Areas Statistics

Dental Health	Total Designations ⁽¹⁾	Geographic Area	Population Group	Facility	Population of Designated HPSAs	Percent of Need Met ⁽⁴⁾	Practitioners Needed to Remove Designations ⁽⁷⁾
Region V	907	17	360	530	8,668,723	0.29 %	1,569
Illinois	159	4	74	81	2,251,836	0.38 %	353
Indiana	97	1	53	43	1,300,449	0.32 %	224
Michigan	257	1	61	195	1,395,016	0.06 %	338
Minnesota	122	9	56	57	706,270	0.15 %	150
Ohio	145	2	66	77	1,789,627	0.34 %	299
Wisconsin	127	0	50	77	1,225,525	0.36 %	205
Region VI	690	148	157	385	6,496,058	0.44 %	924
Arkansas	82	8	50	24	640,256	0.37 %	100
Louisiana	121	35	25	61	2,177,048	0.54 %	249
New Mexico	82	21	16	45	889,463	0.21 %	174
Oklahoma	158	6	57	95	847,263	0.40 %	135
Texas	247	78	9	160	1,942,028	0.47 %	266
Region VII	462	41	185	236	2,721,591	0.18 %	544
Iowa	109	8	47	54	404,571	0.35 %	70
Kansas	117	22	54	41	591,308	0.24 %	101
Missouri	161	11	84	66	1,725,712	0.12 %	373
Nebraska	75	0	0	75			
Region VIII	356	78	96	182	2,155,189	0.42 %	313
Colorado	92	20	29	43	848,143	0.37 %	137
Montana	91	10	31	50	351,150	0.31 %	61
North Dakota	41	23	0	18	98,871	0.33 %	12
South Dakota	57	16	11	30	134,443	0.25 %	28
Utah	50	5	21	24	672,932	0.58 %	70
Wyoming	25	4	4	17	49,650	0.51 %	5
Region IX	678	68	107	503	4,765,863	0.29 %	841
Arizona	173	38	47	88	2,338,245	0.34 %	380
California	397	14	41	342	1,084,615	0.22 %	213
Hawaii	22	1	2	19	107,328	0.56 %	11

Designated Health Professional Shortage Areas Statistics

Dental Health	Total Designations ⁽¹⁾	Geographic Area	Population Group	Facility	Population of Designated HPSAs	Percent of Need Met ⁽⁴⁾	Practitioners Needed to Remove Designations ⁽⁷⁾
Nevada	69	7	16	46	877,695	0.32 %	152
American Samoa	2	1	0	1	55,009	0.00 %	14
Federated States of Micronesia	8	4	0	4	102,843	0.00 %	26
Guam	2	0	1	1	82,842	0.05 %	20
Marshall Islands	2	1	0	1	53,158	0.00 %	11
Northern Mariana Islands	1	1	0	0	53,366	0.00 %	11
Republic of Palau	2	1	0	1	10,762	0.00 %	3
Region X	368	34	92	242	3,604,809	0.24 %	650
Alaska	67	13	0	54	115,203	0.32 %	18
Idaho	87	6	35	46	491,597	0.44 %	66
Oregon	95	0	34	61	1,079,095	0.20 %	213
Washington	119	15	23	81	1,918,914	0.20 %	353

Designated Health Professional Shortage Areas Statistics

Table 5. Mental Health Care Health Professional Shortage Areas, by State, as of June 30, 2019

Mental Health Care	Total Designations ⁽¹⁾	Geographic Area	Population Group	Facility	Population of Designated HPSAs	Percent of Need Met ⁽⁵⁾	Practitioners Needed to Remove Designations ⁽⁸⁾
HPSA Total	4,592	1,015	438	3,139	111,671,772	0.27 %	6,100
Region I	179	21	11	147	2,085,535	0.32 %	113
Connecticut	30	3	5	22	1,034,927	0.15 %	55
Maine	48	12	0	36	260,862	0.33 %	29
Massachusetts	53	1	5	47	273,138	0.32 %	17
New Hampshire	18	3	0	15	92,600	0.45 %	3
Rhode Island	12	2	1	9	424,008	0.69 %	9
Vermont	18	0	0	18			
Region II	243	13	55	175	5,586,435	0.25 %	407
New Jersey	35	0	0	35	39,712	0.69 %	13
New York	160	10	42	108	3,785,356	0.21 %	287
Puerto Rico	44	1	13	30	1,661,225	0.14 %	98
U.S. Virgin Islands	4	2	0	2	100,142	0.61 %	9
Region III	334	57	57	220	5,890,942	0.32 %	418
Delaware	9	0	1	8	88,697	0.19 %	15
District of Columbia	9	1	0	8	133,945	0.05 %	28
Maryland	38	7	11	20	1,051,515	0.34 %	46
Pennsylvania	114	23	2	89	1,710,580	0.38 %	101
Virginia	68	17	9	42	2,198,911	0.42 %	106
West Virginia	96	9	34	53	707,294	0.17 %	122
Region IV	716	124	137	455	26,255,155	0.23 %	1,709
Alabama	50	14	7	29	2,927,845	0.24 %	156
Florida	152	17	40	95	6,113,823	0.15 %	381
Georgia	82	18	8	56	4,807,664	0.39 %	188
Kentucky	96	23	5	68	2,149,202	0.30 %	114
Mississippi	47	12	0	35	2,066,638	0.26 %	269
North Carolina	157	24	52	81	2,547,116	0.14 %	137
South Carolina	63	6	11	46	2,244,211	0.35 %	108
Tennessee	69	10	14	45	3,398,656	0.11 %	356

Designated Health Professional Shortage Areas Statistics

Mental Health Care	Total Designations ⁽¹⁾	Geographic Area	Population Group	Facility	Population of Designated HPSAs	Percent of Need Met ⁽⁵⁾	Practitioners Needed to Remove Designations ⁽⁸⁾
Region V	745	175	30	540	19,353,114	0.30 %	870
Illinois	117	32	4	81	4,834,998	0.23 %	217
Indiana	76	22	0	54	3,728,649	0.35 %	155
Michigan	249	47	15	187	4,225,994	0.22 %	209
Minnesota	63	9	0	54	1,992,941	0.33 %	75
Ohio	112	20	6	86	2,340,301	0.39 %	107
Wisconsin	128	45	5	78	2,230,231	0.32 %	107
Region VI	725	278	46	401	19,963,727	0.32 %	913
Arkansas	45	5	10	30	1,257,964	0.33 %	61
Louisiana	124	53	11	60	3,417,295	0.24 %	160
New Mexico	65	16	2	47	1,246,744	0.12 %	73
Oklahoma	111	4	9	98	1,513,597	0.28 %	72
Texas	380	200	14	166	12,528,127	0.36 %	547
Region VII	299	42	23	234	5,901,674	0.24 %	273
Iowa	67	15	0	52	1,599,822	0.38 %	51
Kansas	66	19	3	44	1,392,080	0.32 %	53
Missouri	86	3	20	63	1,871,798	0.03 %	143
Nebraska	80	5	0	75	1,037,974	0.50 %	26
Region VIII	290	85	15	190	7,135,143	0.31 %	361
Colorado	59	9	6	44	2,574,969	0.31 %	123
Montana	75	20	7	48	573,311	0.12 %	71
North Dakota	50	26	0	24	291,463	0.18 %	20
South Dakota	47	13	1	33	425,450	0.11 %	35
Utah	38	12	1	25	2,708,763	0.46 %	87
Wyoming	21	5	0	16	561,187	0.31 %	25
Region IX	718	148	49	521	13,701,560	0.25 %	749
Arizona	174	64	15	95	2,862,704	0.11 %	181
California	449	65	31	353	7,886,499	0.29 %	404
Hawaii	23	3	1	19	148,786	0.24 %	6

Designated Health Professional Shortage Areas Statistics

Mental Health Care	Total Designations ⁽¹⁾	Geographic Area	Population Group	Facility	Population of Designated HPSAs	Percent of Need Met ⁽⁵⁾	Practitioners Needed to Remove Designations ⁽⁸⁾
Nevada	55	8	1	46	2,445,591	0.35 %	111
American Samoa	2	1	0	1	55,009	0.00 %	12
Federated States of Micronesia	8	4	0	4	102,843	0.00 %	23
Guam	2	0	1	1	82,842	0.02 %	5
Marshall Islands	2	1	0	1	53,158	0.00 %	3
Northern Mariana Islands	1	1	0	0	53,366	0.00 %	3
Republic of Palau	2	1	0	1	10,762	0.00 %	1
Region X	343	72	15	256	5,798,487	0.17 %	287
Alaska	74	18	0	56	276,673	0.22 %	10
Idaho	56	6	1	49	1,268,573	0.24 %	53
Oregon	86	13	8	65	1,416,803	0.21 %	74
Washington	127	35	6	86	2,836,438	0.12 %	150

Designated Health Professional Shortage Areas Statistics

Endnotes

- (1) The number of designations includes HPSAs that are proposed for withdrawal (P) and HPSAs that have no data (N). Designations are not withdrawn until a Federal Register Notice is published, generally once a year on or around July 1.
- (2) The figure reported for the Population of Designated Facility HPSAs for both Primary Care and Dental reflects the number of internees in designated correctional facilities. The figure reported for the Population of Designated Facility HPSAs for Mental Health reflects the number of internees in designated correctional facilities, as well as the average daily inpatient census for state and county mental hospitals designated after September 1, 2015. For reports generated prior to September 1, 2015, the Population of Designated Facility HPSAs for all disciplines included populations served by other public or non-profit facilities. These are facilities that qualify for HPSA designation by demonstrating that even though they are not located in a geographic or population HPSA, they serve the populations of geographic and population HPSAs. As a result, these populations were potentially double counted.
- (3) The figure reported for Percent of Need Met for facility HPSAs includes correctional facilities and state mental hospitals. It excludes facilities not located in a HPSA that are designated based on providing services to the population of a geographic or population HPSA. It also excludes facilities automatically designated based on statute, including health center program grantees, Federally Qualified Health Center Look Alikes, Indian Health Service facilities, and rural health clinics that meet National Health Service Corps (NHSC) site requirements.
- (4) The percent of need met is computed by dividing the number of primary care physicians available to serve the population of the area, group, or facility by the number of primary care physicians that would be necessary to reduce the population to provider ratio below the threshold for designation so that it would eliminate the designation as a primary care HPSA. Federal regulations stipulate that, in order to be considered as having a shortage of providers, a designation must have a population-to-provider ratio that meets or exceeds a certain threshold. For primary care geographic designations, the population to provider ratio must be at least 3,500 to 1. For primary care population designations or geographic designations in areas with unusually high needs, the threshold is 3,000 to 1. For correctional facilities, the threshold is 1,000:1 and takes into account the average length of stay, and whether or not intake examinations are routinely performed.
- (5) The percent of need met is computed by dividing the number of dentists available to serve the population of the area, group, or facility by the number of dentists that would be necessary to reduce the population to provider ratio below the threshold for designation so that it would eliminate the designation as a dental HPSA. Federal regulations stipulate that, in order to be considered as having a shortage of providers, a designation must have a population-to-provider ratio that meets or exceeds a certain threshold. For dental geographic designations, the ratio must be at least 5,000 to 1. For dental population designations or geographic designations in areas with unusually high needs, the threshold is 4,000 to 1. For correctional facilities, the threshold is 1,500:1 and takes into account the average length of stay, and whether or not intake examinations are routinely performed.
- (6) The percent of need met is computed by dividing the number of mental health providers available to serve the population of the area, group, or facility by the number of mental health providers that would be necessary to reduce the population to provider ratio below the threshold for designation so that it would eliminate the designation as a mental health HPSA. Federal regulations stipulate that, in order to be considered as having a shortage of providers, a designation must have a population-to-provider ratio that meets or exceeds a certain threshold. Mental health designations may qualify for designation based on the population to psychiatrist ratio, the population to core mental health provider (psychiatrists, clinical psychologists, clinical social workers, psychiatric nurse specialists, and marriage and family therapists) ratio, or the population to both psychiatrist and core mental health provider ratios. For mental health geographic designations based on the ratio of population to psychiatrist ratio, the designation must have a ratio of 30,000 to 1, while for population designations or geographic designations in areas with unusually high needs, the threshold is 20,000 to 1. For mental health geographic designations based on the ratio of population to core mental health providers, the designation must have a ratio of 9,000 to 1, while for population designations or geographic designations in areas with unusually high needs, the threshold is 6,000 to 1. For mental health geographic designations based on the ratios of both population to psychiatrist and population to core mental health providers, the designation must have ratios of 20,000 to 1 (psychiatrists) and 6,000 to 1 (core mental health providers), while for population designations or geographic designations in areas with unusually high needs, the thresholds are 15,000 to 1 (psychiatrists) and 4,500 to 1 (core mental health providers). For correctional facilities, the threshold is 2,000:1 and takes into account the average length of stay, and whether or not intake examinations are routinely performed. For state mental hospitals, the calculation is based on workload units, which are a function of the average daily inpatient census and the number and type of admissions. For correctional facilities and state mental hospitals, psychiatrists are the only provider type counted.

Designated Health Professional Shortage Areas Statistics

Endnotes

- (7) The number of additional primary care physicians needed to achieve a population-to-primary care physician ratio below the thresholds necessary for designation in all designated primary care HPSAs that would result in their removal from designation. The formula used to designate primary care HPSAs does not take into account the availability of additional primary care services provided by nurse practitioners and physician assistants in an area. The figure reported for Practitioners Needed To Remove Designations for facility HPSAs includes correctional facilities. It excludes facilities not located in a HPSA that are designated based on providing services to the population of a geographic or population HPSA. It also excludes facilities automatically designated based on statute, including health center program grantees, Federally Qualified Health Center Look Alikes, Indian Health Service facilities, and rural health clinics that meet NHSC site requirements.
- (8) The number of additional dentists needed to achieve a population-to-dentist ratio below the thresholds necessary for designation in all designated dental HPSAs that would result in their removal from designation. The figure reported for Practitioners Needed To Remove Designations for facility HPSAs includes correctional facilities. It excludes facilities not located in a HPSA that are designated based on providing services to the population of a geographic or population HPSA. It also excludes facilities automatically designated based on statute, including health center program grantees, Federally Qualified Health Center Look Alikes, Indian Health Service facilities, and rural health clinics that meet NHSC site requirements.
- (9) The number of additional mental health providers needed to achieve a population-to-provider ratio below the thresholds necessary for designation in all designated mental health HPSAs that would result in their removal from designation. While the regulations allow mental health HPSA designations to be based on the psychiatrist to population ratio, the core mental health provider to population ratio, or both in conjunction, most mental health HPSA designations are currently based on the psychiatrists only to population ratio. If a HPSA designation is based on the ratio of population to psychiatrists only, it does not take into account the availability of additional mental health services provided by other mental health providers in the area, such as clinical psychologists, clinical social workers, psychiatric nurse specialists, and marriage and family therapists. The figure reported for Practitioners Needed To Remove Designations for facility HPSAs includes correctional facilities and state mental hospitals. It excludes facilities not located in a HPSA that are designated based on providing services to the population of a geographic or population HPSA. It also excludes facilities automatically designated based on statute, including health center program grantees, Federally Qualified Health Center Look Alikes, Indian Health Service facilities, and rural health clinics that meet NHSC site requirements.
- (10) Percentages of all designations classified as rural/non-rural are calculated by dividing the number of designations for the specified subcategory by the total number of designations for each discipline type and multiplying the result by 100. Due to decimal rounding, percentage totals may not equal exactly 100%.
- (11) Partially rural designations are those made up of geographic components that have a mixture of rural, non-rural, and unknown statuses.
- (12) Designations of unknown rural status may include 1) facility HPSAs whose precise location could not be located on a map (i.e. geocoded) or 2) geographic or population group HPSAs that are made up of some or all areas for which rural status is undefined. Rural status may be undefined where rural information or underlying geographic reference data for administrative boundaries is unavailable for the specified geographic area.